

14th December 1923]

Report of Mr. Clegg's Committee on irrigation.

42 Q.—Rai Bahadur Sir K. VENKATAREDDI NAYUDU : Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state—

(a) whether there is a complaint against the adequacy of the four-inch pipe in the Gōdāvari delta ;

(b) whether any attempt has hitherto been made in this connexion to meet the demands of the ryots of the area and whether the recommendations of Mr. Clegg's Committee have been given effect to in full ;

(c) whether any further action has been taken in the matter ; and

(d) whether the Government will be pleased to place on the table of this Council copies of the report of Mr. Clegg's Committee and of the orders passed by Government thereon and of subsequent orders, if any ?

A.—(a), (b) & (c) The Government are aware that there is a complaint against the adequacy of the four-inch pipes in the Gōdāvari delta. To satisfy the requirements of the ryots, the Clegg Committee's recommendations have been given effect to as far as practicable. It has been considered that the re-piping should be done together with remodelling, and the matter is receiving the attention of the local officers. The Member's attention is invited to the Press Communiqué issued in February 1916.

(d) The Government consider that no useful purpose will be served by placing the Clegg Committee's report on the table now.

Irrigation of lands situated at the tail-end of long channels.

43 Q.—Rai Bahadur Sir K. VENKATAREDDI NAYUDU : Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Government are aware of the difficulty experienced by ryots in irrigating their lands which are situated at the tail-ends of long channels, which take off from the lower reaches of the main canals in the Gōdāvari delta ;

(b) whether the Government have taken any action towards alleviating the distress complained of in this connexion ; and

(c) whether any grant has been made to improve the supply in the channels so situated during the last five years ?

A.—(a) Yes.

(b) The difficulties referred to are experienced in many of the longer channels, elsewhere as well as in the Gōdāvari delta. The cause is invariably the fact that more water than is actually required is drawn off to lands more favourably situated nearer the head of the channel. The remedy is the remodelling and re-piping of the channel, to improve the duty at which the upper part of the channel works, and thus to ensure more equitable distribution. This is usually objected to by the owners of lands under the upper part of the channel. A certain amount of work has been done and is in progress in the Gōdāvari delta in the direction indicated.

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- (c) During the last five years capital expenditure amounting to Rs. 77,940 has been incurred on the remodelling of channels, and additional expenditure from revenue on re-piping, the details of which are not available.

LOCAL SELF-GOVERNMENT.

Construction of General Hospital at Mangalore.

44 Q.—Rao Sahib U. RAMA RAO: Will the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(i) when the construction of the new General Hospital in Mangalore is likely to commence; and

(ii) whether the Government will consider the advisability of erecting a separate hospital for women and children at Mangalore and providing the necessary funds therefor in the next Budget?

A.—(i) The Government are not in a position to state definitely when work on the new combined hospital at Mangalore is likely to be commenced. A comprehensive programme of new works required in the medical department has been prepared and the works have, after careful consideration, been arranged in the order of urgency under four different classes:—

- (1) Very emergent.
- (2) Emergent.
- (3) Ordinary.
- (4) Desirable, but which can be delayed.

The Mangalore hospital is included in class (3) Ordinary. In view of the present financial stringency, the Government are not in a position to provide money for any works included in classes (3) and (4).

(ii) On the recommendation of the Surgeon-General, the Government have decided that the new hospital to be constructed at Mangalore should be a combined institution the female half of which will be separated from the male half by a wall and be in charge of a lady-doctor. The Government do not consider it necessary to erect a separate hospital for women and children.

Filling up of the Tanjore District Board Presidentship.

45 Q.—Mr. R. SRINIVASA AYYANGAR: Will the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(a) why the Presidentship of the District Board of Tanjore that fell vacant in June last remains unfilled by nomination or election, while those of Chittoor, Godavari, Coimbatore and Chingleput where vacancies arose either contemporaneously or subsequently have been promptly filled up;

(b) whether it is intended to fill up the Presidentship of the Tanjore District Board shortly; and

(c) whether in the matter of filling up these vacancies any principle or policy is involved?